STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD BOARD MEETING SESSION – DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS JUNE 19, 2013

ITEM 9

SUBJECT

UPDATE ON THE STATE WATER BOARD'S COMPREHENSIVE BAY-DELTA EFFORTS: (1) REVIEW OF THE 2006 WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY/SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA ESTUARY AND ITS PROGRAM OF IMPLEMENTATION, AND (2) TRIBUTARY-SPECIFIC PLANNING EFFORTS OUTSIDE OF THE BAY-DELTA PLAN

DISCUSSION

The State Water Board's Comprehensive Bay-Delta Effort consists of four phases. Three phases are associated with the phased review update, and implementation of the 2006 Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary (Bay-Delta Plan) to protect beneficial uses of water in the Bay-Delta. The Bay-Delta Plan identifies beneficial uses of water in the Bay-Delta, water quality objectives for the reasonable protection of those beneficial uses, and a program of implementation for achieving the water quality objectives. Phase 1 of that review is focused on southern Delta water quality and San Joaquin River flows. Phase 2 is focused on other changes that may be needed to the remainder of the Bay-Delta Plan to protect beneficial uses. Phase 3 will involve changes to water rights and other measures to implement changes to the Bay-Delta Plan developed in Phases 1 and 2. The fourth phase of the Comprehensive Bay-Delta Effort consists of an effort to address tributary-specific flows for the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta that will be developed separately from the Bay-Delta Plan review.

Staff will provide a brief update on these activities. Following staff's presentation, the Board will receive public comments on this matter.

More information on the State Water Board's Bay-Delta Program and a short fact sheet describing current efforts are available on-line.

POLICY ISSUE

None at this time. Informational Item.

FISCAL IMPACT

None at this time. Informational Item.

REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT

None at this time. Informational Item.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

None at this time. Informational Item.

State Water Board action on this item will assist the Water Boards in reaching Goal 4 of the Strategic Plan Update: 2008-2012: Comprehensively address water quality protection and restoration of the relationship between water supply and water quality, and describe the connections between water quality, water quantity, and climate change, throughout California's water planning processes.